

(b) the average amount spent per school per year under Government and under private management;

(c) the number of Government Vernacular Primary schools which are held in buildings not belonging to the Government;

(d) the total amount of rent payable every year by the Government for such schools?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(a) and (b). Vide answer to (1) and (2) of question No. 90.

(c) Forty.

(d) Rs. 3,060.

Half-time system in the Lower Primary Classes.

92. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the number of schools that follow this system (i) under Government and (ii) under private management;

(b) whether complaints have been received from persons who are asked to work this system regarding the unsuitability of the same;

(c) whether inspecting officers have themselves reported against the system;

(d) whether the Government is aware that the Travancore Government has recently given up the system?

(e) whether the curriculum of studies has been changed and reduced in consequence of the introduction of the system?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(a) (i) Twenty-seven.

(ii) One hundred and fifty-seven.

(b) Yes.

(c) Not against the system, but about the inadvisability of its insistence in certain localities and schools.

(d) Yes.

(e) No material change has been necessitated.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—With regard to question No. 92, it is stated that the number of schools that follow half-time system is, Government schools, 27, while the number of schools that follow half-time system under private management comes to 157. Is there any reason for this large difference between the number of schools under Government management following this system and the number of private schools following the system?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It has been repeatedly explained in this House. I have made it clear that the system is to be introduced in the schools only when vacancies occur. Since Government are not opening any new schools, the vacancies in Sirkar schools are very few. But many new aided

schools are started and as such there will be many vacancies there and when such vacancies occur the half-time system is introduced. Further it is our policy that no permanent teacher, whether in the Aided or Sirkar service, should be disbanded by the introduction of this system. So this system could be introduced only when vacancies occur. This has been explained by me here several times.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Are there any Government schools where this half-time system could be introduced, but the same has not yet been introduced, or having the scope for this system, but not insisted upon by the Department?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I cannot say now. I shall look into the matter.

President.—We have no objection to introduce this system in any Sirkar school provided there is no difficulty caused by the introduction of the same.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know, Sir, whether this half-time system is not insisted upon in schools under Government and in which there is ample scope, while it is insisted upon in aided schools?

President.—This is sometimes insisted upon in the newly started aided schools. If they want to open new schools, we will ask them to adopt this half-time system and by that no difficulty is caused.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—So this applies only to new schools and new schools only?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes. I have made it clear that either in Aided or Sirkar service no permanent teacher should be disbanded for the introduction of this system. So this is introduced only when vacancies occur or when new schools are started.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—The answer to sub-division (e) is that 'No material change has been necessitated'. While the schools were working for 5 hours, there was a certain curriculum prescribed. Is it possible to follow the whole of that curriculum and finish it by working for half the number of hours within the school year?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It is possible. It is only in the first and second classes this half-time system is introduced. Little children of the 1st and 2nd classes do not learn for full five hours. They become tired easily. So we take only half the time for taking a lesson which may be put down for one hour. They are able to learn as much in half an hour as they are able to learn in one full hour, for, after half an hour of instruction they become tired and they do not actually learn any.

thing during the remaining half an hour. So there need not be much difference in the curricula of studies. As has been answered, no material change has been necessitated. Slight changes are necessary of course.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Am I to understand that, while the schools were working for five hours, the curricula prescribed were not sufficient for the number of hours that the schools were working?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Have I not made the point clear, Sir? I think I have made the position clear.

Collection of duty on liquor issued from the Distillery and Warehouse.

93. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether there is any provision in the Distillery and Warehouse Rules prohibiting the receipt of money in cash as duty on the liquor to be issued from the Distillery and Warehouse; if so, what is the exact rule;

(b) how many instances have there been in the past 3 years of duty being received in cash by officers of the Excise Department and liquor issued from the Distillery and Warehouse accordingly during holidays;

(c) is it true that during the Christmas of 1103 one of the aminadars was even authorised to receive kists of shops?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—(a) There is no provision in the Distillery and Warehouse Rules prohibiting the receipt of money in cash as duty on liquor except by the officer in charge. The rules are contained in sections 150 and 94 of the Distillery and Warehouse Rules, a copy of which has been placed upon the Table.

(b) During the Onam, Christmas and Easter holidays of 1101 and 1102 duty was received in cash by the Superintendent. The Manager also received duty on the above three occasions in 1101 and during the Onam holidays in 1102. In 1101 besides the three occasions referred to above, the Superintendent received duty on 2nd Medam 1101 which was a holiday. In 1102 also besides the three occasions above referred to, the Superintendent received duty on 12th Vrischigam 1102, which was an unexpected holiday. In 1103 no duty was received in cash.

(c) Yes, on a very urgent occasion in respect of one shop.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know if there is any provision in the Distillery and Warehouse Rules prohibiting the receipt of money in cash? May I know whether